

ALBANY INSTITUTE OF HISTORY & ART

A Guide to the Ten Broeck Family Papers, 1761-1950

Summary Information

Repository

Albany Institute of History & Art Library

Creator

Ten Broeck Family

Title

Ten Broeck Family Papers, 1761-1950

Identifier

AE 117

Date

1761-1950

Physical Description

3 boxes

Physical Location

The materials are located onsite in the Museum.

Language of the Material

English

Abstract

The Ten Broeck family was one of the most prominent and oldest families in Albany, New York, and were of Dutch descent. Wessel Ten Broeck came to the colony of New Netherland in 1626. His children were Wesselse, Dirck, Hendrick and Cornelia. Dirck would be one of the first aldermen of Albany.

This collection contains correspondence, wills, inventories, certificates, promissory notes, land estate records, and genealogical records.

Preferred Citation

Preferred citation for this material is as follows:

Ten Broeck Family Papers, 1761-1950, AE 117. Albany Institute of History & Art Library, Albany, New York.

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Restrictions on Access

None

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Immediate Source of Acquisition

Accession: #AE 117

Accession Date: November 1963

Processing Information

Processed in December 1990. Finding aid updated by H. Harrington, November 2003, and H. Cox, September 2020.

Biographical/Historical

The Ten Broeck family was one of the most prominent and oldest families in Albany. They are of Dutch descent, coming to the New World in the 1600s. One of the earliest Ten Broecks was Dirck (1638-1717). Dirck had a son named Wessel (1664-1747), after his father. Wessel also had a son, Dirck (1686-1751). Dirck was one of several children.

Dirck and his wife had eleven children, with about half reaching adulthood. The tenth child, a boy, was named Abraham (1734-1810). He married Elizabeth Van Rensselaer (1734-1813), the daughter of Stephen Van Rensselaer, the Patroon of Rensselaerwyck.

He worked as merchant with his brother-in-law Philip Livingston. During his life, was Mayor of Albany from 1779-1783, and again from 1796-1798. He also served in the Revolution, notably at the Battle of Saratoga. It was he who built the Ten Broeck Mansion at Arbor Hill. At the time he was attempting to keep up with the Schuylers and Van Rensselaers. The land it is built on was given to the couple by Stephen Van Rensselaer. In 1848, the mansion was bought by Theodore Olcott. He named it Arbour Hill.

Abraham and Elizabeth had five children. The two oldest were twins, a boy and a girl. The girl died at age 2, while the boy, Dirck lived into adulthood. Dirck was born in 1765 and died in 1832. He married a Stuyvesant.

The Ten Broecks, like the other Dutch families of Albany, intermarried with each other repeatedly. Through marriage, the Ten Broecks are related to the Cuyler, Van Buren, Schuyler, Van Schaick, Van Rensselaer, Staats, Van Dyck, Bleecker, Ten Eyck, Lansing, Livingston, Van Alen, and Stuyvesant families.

Scope and Contents

This collection spans 1761-1950, however the bulk of the collection dates from 1767-1865. It contains correspondence, wills, inventories, certificates, promissory notes, land estate records, and genealogical records from various family members.

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